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PATENT APPLICATION 09/852,352

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Technology Center 2100

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

G. Christian Alford, et al

Serial No.:

09/852,352

Filing Date:

May 8, 2001

Examiner:

Chuck O. Kendall

Art Unit:

2122

Title:

DIAGNOSTIC TOOL FOR A PORTABLE THREAD

ENVIRONMENT

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name

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Date of Signature

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RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

In response to the Office Action mailed September 17, 2003, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following amendments and the comments as set forth below.